

Date: _____ Approved: _____

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes
Claiborne Robertson Room, 3:00 pm
Wednesday, December 11, 2013

There were present:

Cynthia Kerr Fralin, Co-Chair
Ms. Susan S. Goode, Co-Chair
Karen C. Abramson
Mrs. Louise B. Cochrane
Dr. Elizabeth F. Harris
Ivan P. Jecklin
Mrs. Jane Joel Knox
Steven A. Markel
Dr. Shantaram K. Talegaonkar
William A. Royall, Jr., Ex-Officio

By Invitation:

Alex Nyerges, Director
Stephen D. Bonadies
Ms. Suzanne Broyles
Mary Anne Carlson
Dr. Lee Anne Chesterfield
Margaret Irby Clement
W. Birch Douglass III
Margaret N. Gottwald
John H. Hager
Terrell Luck Harrigan
Li Jian
Charles Levine
Dr. Mitchell Merling
Robin Nicholson
Cameron O'Brien
Christopher Oliver
John Ravenal
Dr. Susan Rawles
Dr. John Henry Rice
Dr. Peter Schertz
Ms. Jayne Shaw
Richard B. Woodward
Dr. Sylvia Yount

Absent:

Michael M. Connors
James W. McGlothlin

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair, Cynthia Kerr Fralin, at 3:53 pm.

II. MINUTES

Motion: proposed and seconded that the minutes of the last meeting of the Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee held on the 18th of September 2013 be approved as distributed on the 22nd of November 2013. Motion carried.

III. PURCHASE, GIFT AND LOAN CONSIDERATIONS

At 3:56 pm the meeting went into closed session.

Motion: proposed by Dr. Harris, and seconded by Ms. Goode that the meeting go into closed session under Section 2.2-3711 (A) (6), (8) and (9) of the Freedom of Information Act

to discuss the **investing of public funds** where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the Museum would be adversely affected, and

to discuss and consider matters relating to specific **gifts, bequests, and fundraising activities, and grants and contracts for services to be performed,** and

to discuss and consider matters relating to specific **gifts, bequests, and grants.** Motion carried.

At 4:53 pm, by motion proposed, seconded and carried, the meeting resumed in open session.

Motion: proposed by Ms. Fralin, seconded by Mrs. Knox that the Committee certify that the closed session just held was conducted in compliance with Virginia State law, as set forth in the Certification Resolution distributed. Motion carried.

A roll call vote was taken, the results of which are outlined in the Certification Resolution.

Motion: proposed by Ms. Fralin and seconded by Ms. Goode that the Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee recommend to the Full Board of Trustees the following purchase considerations from the funds specified:

1. Dale Chihuly (American, b. 1941), *Red Reeds*, 2012, blown glass, from the Arthur and Margaret Glasgow Endowment, Vendor: Chihuly Studio, Seattle

2. Jacob Lawrence (American, 1917–2000), *Catfish Row*, 1947, egg tempera on hardboard, 17 3/8 x 23 1/2", Signed and dated, lower right: Jacob Lawrence / 1947, original artist-made pin-oak frame, from the Revolving Art Purchase Fund to be repaid from the J. Harwood and Louise B. Cochrane Fund in January 2014, Vendor: Private sale via Sotheby's
3. Francis W. Edmonds (American, 1806–1863), *Courtship in New Amsterdam*, 1850, oil on canvas, 25 x 30", from the Floyd D. and Anne C. Gottwald Fund; Vendor: Hirschl & Adler Galleries, Inc., New York, NY
4. *Suite de Palissy - dit d'Avon* (School of Fontainebleau) (French, 1530s-1610), *Pilgrimage Flask*, ca. 1600, colored earthenware (*terre vernissée*), 9 x 6 1/4", from the Ailsa Mellon Bruce Fund, Vendor: Works of Art, Antwerp, Belgium
5. Marie Bracquemond (French, 1840-1916), *Woman with Flowerpots*, 1879, hand-colored faïence plate, 10" diameter, from the Ailsa Mellon Bruce Fund, Vendor: Larry Simms, Lambertville, NJ
6. Hank Willis Thomas (American, b. 1976) in collaboration with Sanford Biggers (American, b. 1970), *Zero Hour*, 2012, from the *Wayfarer* series, , digital c-print and plexi with Lumisty film, six panels, each 40 1/2 x 30", edition 2 of 3, with 2 artist proofs, from the Pamela K. and William A. Royall Jr. Fund for 21st Century Art and the NEA Fund for American Art; Vendor: Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, NY
7. James Karales (American, 1930-2002), *Selma to Montgomery March, Alabama*, 1965, gelatin silver print, printed ca. 1965, 11 1/2 X 16 5/8", *Look* Magazine copyright stamp on print verso., Ernest Withers (American, 1922-2007), *I Am A Man, Sanitation Workers Strike, Memphis, TN, March 28, 1968*, 1968, printed ca. 1990s, gelatin silver print, 20 x 24", from the NEA Fund for American Art, Vendor: Howard Greenberg Gallery, New York, NY

and the following gift/purchase consideration:

1. Six Native American Objects

Gift:

Northwest Coast (Tlingit, Haida, Bella Bella, or Fraser River Salish), *Dagger*, walrus ivory, abalone shell, steel, rawhide, 22 x 2" (L.25.2009.26)

Northwest Coast (Tlingit, Haida, Bella Bella, or Fraser River Salish), *Eagle Mask*, 19th century, wood, pigment, feathers, 18 x 9 x 11" (L.25.2009.30)

Purchase:

Navajo, *Classic Child's Serape*, ca. 1870, wool, 33 x 57" (L.25.2009.41)

Yupik, *Eskimo "Dream" Dance Mask*, late 19th century, wood, pigment, feathers, 13 x 12" (L.25.2009.3)

Cree, *Pipe*, wood, porcupine quills, catlanite, pewter, 31" x 3" x 4" (without bowl) (L.25.2009.152a/b)

Cheyenne, *Southern Girl's Dress*, ca. 1880, hide, seed and brass beads, pigments, 21 x 38 x 7" (L.25.2009.140)

From the Arthur and Margaret Glasgow Endowment Fund

Donor/Vendor: Robert and Nancy Nooter Collection, Washington DC

and the following gift considerations:

1. Seven African Objects:

- Yaka (Democratic Republic of the Congo), *Phuungu Figure* (Charm), 19th-20th century, wood, beads, cloth, fiber, horn, feather, 10 5/8" h

- Kongo culture (Democratic Republic of the Congo), *Whistle with Frog and Snake Motif*, 19th–20th century, ivory, glass beads, fiber, 5¹/₈”h
- Pende culture (Democratic Republic of the Congo), *Whistle*, 19th–20th century, ivory, 3³/₄”h
- Holo culture (Democratic Republic of the Congo), *Pipe with Seated Figure*, 19th–20th century, wood, metal, 6⁷/₈” long
- Holo culture (Democratic Republic of the Congo), *Pipe with Two Kneeling Figures and Crocodile*, 19th–20th century, wood, metal, 8³/₄” long
- Kuba culture (Democratic Republic of the Congo), *Cosmetic Box*, 19th–20th century, wood, 5¹/₂”h
- Kuba culture (Democratic Republic of the Congo), *Ngady amwaash* mask, 19th–20th century, wood, cowrie shells, glass beads, cloth, fiber, 13”h

Donor: Drs. Kenneth and Carol Adelman, Arlington

- Joseph Foxcroft Cole (American, 1837-1892) *French Farm Scene*, 1861, oil on canvas, 13 x 21”, Donor: Charles Thalheimer, Richmond
- Wilfrid de Glehn, (British, born Germany, 1870-1951), *Breakfast in the Bower [Déjeuner sous la Tonnelle]*, 1908, oil on canvas, 40¹/₂ x 35¹/₂”
John Koch (American, 1909-1978), *Sunday Morning*, 1974, oil on canvas, 15 x 15”
Donor: Jane Joel Knox, Richmond
- Sara November (American, 1900-1983):
 - *Daily Devotions*, ca. 1936, oil on canvas, 22¹/₄ x 28¹/₄”
 - *Study for “Daily Devotions,”* ca. 1936, oil on canvas, 16 x 20”
 - *Card Players*, 1944, graphite, pen, and ink on paper, 11¹/₂ x 10¹/₂”
 - *Neil Sleeping*, ca. 1934, red conte crayon on paper, 9-15/16 x 7¹/₂”
 - *Neil Reading*, ca. 1937, graphite on paper, 11 x 8¹/₂ “
 - Five advertising illustrations, 1920s
 - Lentheric Perfumes*, watercolor on paper, 11 x 8”
 - three *Sachs Wraps* sketches, pen, ink, and wash on paper, 31 x 16” (framed)
 - Untitled (Seated Woman)*, charcoal on paper, 24 x 17¹/₄” (framed)

Donor: Sara Belle and Neil November, Richmond
- Hasui Kawase (Japanese, 1883-1957), Forty-Three Works of Woodblock Prints and Watercolors, 1919-1956, various sizes
40 Prints: woodblock prints, ink and color on paper
3 Watercolor: album leafs, ink and color on paper
Donor: René and Carolyn Balcer, Los Angeles
Credit: The René and Carolyn Balcer Collection
- Félix Bracquemond (French, 1833–1914), 180 works on paper; 62 ceramic objects
Giovanni Battista Piranesi (Italian, 1720–1778), 127 works on paper
Donor: Frank Raysor, Richmond
- Antoine-Louis Barye (French, 1796-1875):
 - *Percheron*, ca. 1870, bronze (atelier) (L.122.2010.12)
 - *Bear in a Trough*, ca. 1832, bronze (Barbédienne) (L.122.2010.10)
 - *Wolf Caught in a Trap*, ca. 1870, bronze (L.122.2010.8)
 - *Seated Bear (Bear Assis)*, 1833, bronze (L.122.2010.9)
 - *Walking Lion* (Lion Qui Marche), 1840, bronze (atelier) (L.122.2010.5)
 - *Arab Riding a Dromedary*, ca. 1874, bronze (atelier) (L.122.2010.4)

- Lion and Serpent (“Lion of the Tuileries”), after 1833, bronze (L.122.2010.14)
Donor: Mrs. Nelson St. Clair, Williamsburg

and to approve the following loan recommendations made by the Staff:

Loans from the Collection

1. Jim Dine, *Untitled*, 1992, acrylic, enamel, and oil on paper. John Barton Payne Fund, 93.14
Cindy Sherman, *Untitled #119*, 1983, C-print on paper. National Endowment for the Arts
Fund for American Art, 96.101; Exhibition: “Aspects of the Self: Portraits of our Times”
Venue and dates: Center for the Arts at Virginia Tech, March 21 – April 27, 2014
Recommendation: lend with courier as a Statewide Technical Assistance Program
contribution.
2. Four works by René Lalique:
Sea Horse Brooch, 1902-1905, gold, opals, pearls, enamel. Sydney and Frances Lewis Art
Nouveau Fund, 73.46.1;
Necklace, ca. 1897, gold, enamel, pearls, opal. Gift of Sydney and Frances Lewis, 85.248;
Sabbath Princess Collar, ca. 1899, gold, enamel, glass, pearls. Gift of Sydney and Frances Lewis,
85.243;
Buckle, Two Cocks, ca. 1900, enamel. Gift of Sydney and Frances Lewis, 85.249a-b.
Exhibition: “René Lalique: Enchanted by Glass”; Venue & dates: Corning Museum of
Glass, May 17 – August 17, 2014; Recommendation: lend with courier.
3. Oomarsee Mawjee, *Statuette of Dionysus*, ca. 1890, silver. Adolph D. and Wilkins C. Williams
Fund, 2011.260; Exhibition: “Victorian Sculpture”; Venue & dates: Yale Center for British
Art, September 11 – November 30, 2014; Recommendation: lend.
4. Jan Davidsz de Heem, *Still Life*, ca. 1640-50, oil on canvas, Arthur and Margaret Glasgow
Fund, 61.15
Cornelis Jacobsz Delff, *Interior of a Kitchen*, ca 1610, oil on canvas. Gift of Miss Ellen D. C.
Blair, 35.2.1
Ludolph de Jongh, *A Young Boy*, 1661, oil on canvas. Arthur and Margaret Glasgow Fund,
63.54
Exhibition: “Two Republics,” an installation of the permanent galleries of The Columbus
Museum, Georgia; Venue & dates: The Columbus Museum, Georgia, October, 2014 –
January, 2015; Recommendation: lend.
5. Alfred Sisley, *Wild Flowers*, ca. 1875, oil on canvas. Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mellon,
85.500
Exhibition: “Working among Flowers: French Still Life in the 19th Century”
Venues & dates: Dallas Museum of Art, October 26, 2014 – February 1, 2015;
VMFA, March 22 – June 21, 2015; Denver Art Museum, July 19 – October 11, 2015
Recommendation: lend.
6. Daniel Putnam Brinley, *The Peony Garden*, 1912, oil on canvas. Adolph D. and Wilkins C.
Williams Fund, 78.149; Exhibition “The Artist’s Garden: American Impressionism and the
Garden Movement, 1887- 1920”; Venues & dates: Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts,
Feb. 12 – May 24, 2015; Chrysler Museum of Art, summer, 2015; Reynolda House Museum
of American Art, fall, 2015; Recommendation: lend.

Loans Denied

1. Henri Rousseau, *Tropical Landscape: an American Indian struggling with a Gorilla*, 1910, oil on canvas,
Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mellon, 84.3; Exhibition: “The Shadow of the Avantgarde”;
Venues & dates: Museum Folkwang, Essen Germany, October 2015 – January 2016

Motion carried. **Note:** William A. Royall, Jr. abstained from voting.

Motion: proposed by Ms. Fralin and seconded by Mr. Markel that the Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee recommend to the Full Board of Trustees that the Director, and in his absence Dr. Sylvia Yount, be authorized to accept gifts of art offered to the Museum between December 13, 2013 and December 31, 2013. Motion carried.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS/ADJOURNMENT

Sylvia Yount reported on the following Director's discretionary purchases.

Director's Discretionary Purchase

1. André Kertesz (American, born Hungary, 1894-1985), *Umbrellas, Tokyo*, 1968, silver gelatin photograph, 11x14" (2013.224)
Edward Weston (American, 1886-1958), *Melting Ice*, 1938, vintage silver gelatin photograph, 8x10" (2013.225)
Vendor: Wendy Halsted Gallery, Franklin, MI
Source: Revolving Art Purchase Fund to be repaid from the Aldine S. Hartman Endowment
2. André Kertesz, *Fountain and Church in Fog*, 1917, vintage contact print, 1- 9/16 x 1 3/8"
Vendor: Catherine Courturier Gallery, Houston, TX
Source: Revolving Art Purchase Fund to be repaid from the Aldine S. Hartman Endowment

No additional business was brought before the Committee and the meeting was adjourned by Co-Chair, Cynthia Kerr Fralin at 5:00 pm.

Suzanne Broyles
Secretary of the Museum

MOTION: Ms. Fralin
SECOND: Mrs. Knox

MEETING: Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee
DATE: 11 December 2013

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this Committee that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee.

VOTE

AYES: Fralin/Goode/Abramson/Harris/Knox/Markel/Talegaonkar/Royall

NAYS: None

[For each nay vote, the substance of the departure from the requirements of the Act should be described.]

ABSENT DURING VOTE: Cochrane/Jecklin

ABSENT DURING MEETING: Connors/McGlothlin

Suzanne Broyles
Secretary of the Museum